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# THE JERUSALEM POST

SUNDAY,  
DECEMBER 20, 1953

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## Marginal Column

By ERNST LAQUEUR

## Warmer Weather Ends Heavy Snow Storm

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE treatment given to Mr. Lavrenti Beria has been on orthodox lines. Broadly speaking, those in charge can choose between three methods: one, to liquidate Beria and his friends without a public trial and much further ad, as in the case of his predecessor, the "late." Another method is to let him go, but the possibility is to treat him as a "parasocialist" that is, as an old and faithful Bolshevik who has become a renegade, joining subjectively or "objectively" (this is even better) the camp of the enemy. During the first weeks following his arrest, Beria was called a "counterrevolutionary" by the Soviet press and radio. But now this theory has been dropped: Beria had been a spy ever since he fought the nationalist Musavites in Baku in 1919, which means that he had been an agent of the secret service, including the original thesis. The third course, which now has been adopted, has the disadvantage that it may not be believed. But it is in line with all the former big trials and perhaps this is an important. In place of Mervukov, Dekanovits and Gogolov, now comes Yagoda, Yagoda, Faulkner, Wolovitch, or Gaj and obtain a exact replica of the 1938 charges against the then heads of the NKVD: "Yagoda, this most impudent enemy agent and traitor had organized and sponsored over the Middle East the periodically revolving wind brought additional and greater masses of polar air into our region.

Subsequently, a low pressure system developed in the area which gradually moved and spread over the Middle East while the periodically revolving wind brought additional and greater masses of polar air into our region.

Temperatures in the upper air fell to well below those in northern Siberia. This caused a violent depression over the Mediterranean Sea and released it again especially over Israel and Syria where the hills caused a forced ascent.

The barometric depression is now moving northeast and pressures are rising rapidly in our region and a general improvement is to be expected for today.

**Jordan Blames Israel For Slaying Doctor**

The Israel-Jordan Mixed Ar-

tic Commission met in emergency session at 6 p.m. yesterday to discuss a Jordanian complaint on the attack on a car on the Bethlehem-Hebron road on Friday night in which an Arab Legion officer was killed. The Jordanian commission, headed by Captain Muwaddah, had been stalled at Amman since their arrival in Jordan on Wednesday afternoon.

It was decided to postpone the continuation of discussions on this incident until after deliberations on the Israel complaint on the murder of Wednesday of two soldiers in the Beit Govrin area are completed at tomorrow's meeting.

NEA reports that Captain Muwaddah, a Lebanese doctor serving with the Arab Legion, was dragged out of his car which he stopped at a road block on the Bethlehem-Solemon's Pool road, and was shot at close range.

U.N. observers visited the scene yesterday morning and flew to Amman where the body had been taken prior to its transfer to the Lebanon. It was said.

**Bait Govrin Murders**

The Israel-Jordan MAC met in emergency session on Thursday night to discuss the Israel complaint on the murder of two Jewish soldiers. They are right: the triumvirate has been a notoriously unstable form of government in human history. A duumvirate may be better, but this is probably only a transition to another rule which temporally stabilized as the result of Stalin's death, undoubtedly will return before long. Last month the Party chief of Leningrad was ousted, last week the two first secretaries of the Party were purged. Whatever the process is called, undoubtedly it is to continue. The main difference between Communists and non-Communists is that the former believe that this vicious circle will be broken once "imperialist encirclement" ends.

**SUDAN ELECTIONS RULED FAIR**

CAIRO, Saturday (Reuter).—Sukman Sen, the Indian Chairman of the Sudanese National Commission, told a press conference here on Thursday that he is satisfied that the Sudanese people had had a free and fair election.

In the recent elections, the National Unionist (pro-Egyptian) Party won a majority.

**UNION BANK OF ISRAEL LTD**

OWN FUNDS (CONSOLIDATED) IL. 1,200,000  
ASSETS (CONSOLIDATED) IL 23,200,000

TEL AVIV JERUSALEM HAIFA NATANYA

## Industry, Labour Sign New Pact For C-o-L Pay

TEL AVIV, Saturday.—The Cost-of-Living agreement between the Government and the Histadrut, providing for higher C-o-L allowances for C-o-L wage-earners, was signed here yesterday.

The basic wage (including family allowance and seniority pay) on which the allowance is based was raised from IL.80 to IL.125.

This means that for persons having five or more dependents the new-point C-o-L rise in the past three months will be compensated for at the present rate of 800 pruta a point, but for those earning IL.125 the index point will be calculated at IL.1125. Until now, no C-o-L allowances have been paid on that portion of the basic wage in excess of IL.80.

**Grade Differences**

The change applies only to C-o-L increases since IL.125, and has been introduced to reduce the wage differences between lower and higher paid workers—a difference which diminished progressively with the rise in C-o-L allowances.

The agreement provides that future increases in the C-o-L allowances will be based on the basis of figures published by the Government. The C-o-L index will be signed every three months as in the past, providing the index increases or decreases at least three points.

Signatories to the agreement were Mr. A. Becker, Head of the Trade Union Department of the Histadrut; Mr. I. Meshi, his deputy; Mr. K. Klingholtz, Chairman of the Labour Committee of the Manufacturers' Association; and the Director of the Labour Department of the Association, Mr. S. Moriel.

## HOW YOU ARE AFFECTED

If your basic wage includes your Co-L allowances and family allowances it is:

IL. 60	IL.4.200
IL. 70	IL.4.900
IL. 80	IL.5.600
IL. 90	IL.6.300
IL.100	IL.7.000
IL.110	IL.7.700
IL.120	IL.8.400
IL.125 or more	IL.8.725

## \$9m. U.S. GRANT RELEASED

WASHINGTON, Saturday (Reuter).—The U.S. has turned over \$9m. to Israel as Grant-in-Aid for the purchase of food and raw materials. Unnamed sources have said that a note for this sum was turned over by the Foreign Relations Committee of the Government of Israel several days ago. It is a part of the \$20m. American Grant for the six months ending December 31, 1953.

**\$60m. Reparation Funds Committed**

NEW YORK, Saturday (INA).—Israel has committed about \$60m. out of the \$80m. accruing to her by next March under the Reparations Agreement, the Israel Purchasing Mission disclosed here yesterday.

**Beria Tried to Help Soviet Minorities Get More Freedom'**

NEW YORK, Saturday (UP).—A report published by the World Jewish Congress' Institute of Jewish Affairs today said that Lavrenti P. Beria tried to give more freedom to Russia's 150 subject nationalities for his own political purposes.

The 38-page report, "The Soviet Attitude towards Territorial Minorities and the Jews," points out that Soviet experts noted that the attitude towards minorities after Stalin's death.

A number of "Great Russian" officials in the Republics of the Ukraine, Byelorussia, Georgia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were discharged and replaced by native leaders at that time.

It is said that with the aid of Beria, the deposed head of the Russian secret police, "all minority nationalities appointed during the preceding three months to leading posts in the various Federative States were discharged and, with few exceptions, replaced again by 'Great Russians,'" the report added.

**Anti-Israel Line**

It noted that "this short-lived" plan of Beria's formed the basis for one of the charges made against him by the Soviet State Prosecutor.

Commenting on Russian-Jewish relations, the report said that since the USSR recognized that it had lost its right for political influence in Israel, it launched, during the last four years of Stalin's dictatorship, a venomous attack upon Israel, aimed at winning the sympathy of the Arab States.

As Minister of Internal Affairs Beria was at the head, and the others in subordinate positions of the MVD security forces, which are considered military.

The report was written by Mr. Anatole Goldstein.

**Workers Demand Death Penalty**

MOSCOW, Saturday (UP).—The Soviet Press reported today a mounting wave of demands by Soviet workers for the death penalty against deposed Secret Police Chief Lavrenti P. Beria and his accomplices.

"Workers" reported indignation meetings at factories and offices in Moscow, Kiev, Leningrad, Minsk and other cities condemning the former Deputy Premier who was arrested last July on charges of treason and is now awaiting trial.

Others here believe it certain that Beria will be condemned to death under provisions of the section of the criminal code he has been charged with violating.

Beria and six accomplices, all aged 57 and confined to high treason, are charged with violating Article 58, Paragraph 1B of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republics, which provides that death is the only permissible punishment for treason by men in the military service.

Commenting on Russian-Jewish relations, the report said that since the USSR recognized that it had lost its right for political influence in Israel, it launched, during the last four years of Stalin's dictatorship, a venomous attack upon Israel, aimed at winning the sympathy of the Arab States.

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## 'I'll Die in Prison' Weeps Mossadegh

TEHERAN, Saturday (UP).—"I'll die in the corner of a prison," ousted Premier Mohammed Mossadegh tearfully predicted to his treason trial yesterday.

The prosecutor demanded

the death penalty for both

Mossadegh and former Army

Chief of Staff Taghi Riahi,

on trial with him. However,

Iranian law prohibits capital

punishment for persons over

60 years of age. Mossadegh is

72.

The ex-Premier announced

this morning that he rested

his defense, but later he

changed his mind, asked that

he be permitted to make a

speech, and wept loudly until

his request was granted.

**Elections in Persia Ordered by Shah**

TEHERAN, Saturday (UPI).—Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi today dissolved the Iranian Parliament and ordered new elections for both Houses, a Government spokesman announced.

The Government's decision to dissolve Parliament months be-

fore it is due to expire is

described as one of the boldest steps taken yet by the young Shah, especially in view of the opposition of power-

ful Deputies.

The elections will enable Par-

liament to give constitutional

backing to the Cabinet of Gen-

eral Fazlollah Zahedi, who suc-

ceeded Mohammed Mossadegh.

The Cabinet will not resign

pending the elections.

**Governments**

Government circles are con-

cerned that the elections will

strengthen General Zahedi's

hold, especially during the pro-

posed Anglo-Iranian talks to

try to solve the oil dispute be-

tween the two countries.

They may also disrupt hostil-

ities from the British of the British

following the resumption of dip-

omatic relations between the

two countries and lead to the

collapse of such anti-British

leaders as the fanatical religious

sheikhs and Hussein Makki.

**Pella Loses Vote On United Europe**

ROME, Saturday (UPI).—Com-

munist left-wing Socialists

today voted to support the

Government's attempt to

block the Western resolution

to strengthen the European

Community.

Government circles are con-

cerned that the elections will

delay the formation of a

European Community.

**Australians First**

He had also written to Dr.

Goldsman that the Australian

Government could not make a

settlement with the Jewish or-

ganizations before it had settled

the whole question of compen-

sation to all those in Austria

who had suffered persecution

from the Nazis.

He added that the Security

Council resolution should de-

finitely end war crimes.

**Diplomatic Circles**

Diplomatic circles expect the

emphasis in future talks to

shift to the British demand for

the strengthening of the



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## U.S.-Canada Group Meets Tomorrow

*Jerusalem Post Reporter*  
TEL AVIV, Saturday.—Sweden is very pleased with Israeli textiles, and Israel-built cars are frequently seen on that country's roads. Mr. J. M. Malling, the Swedish Charge d'Affairs here, said yesterday at the weekly luncheon of the Commercial and Industrial Club:

"Israel's exports to Sweden this year would be the highest to date, with a total of 400,000 crowns. The export of citrus fruit of greatest value is a total value of 7,500 crowns (three Swedish crowns equal IL1). Last year's exports were 260,000 crates of citrus."

Mr. Malling added that there is severe competition from Italian and Spanish Valencia blood

oranges this year, and advised exporters here to advertise more extensively, and generally to be "on the alert." He added, however, "Sweden and its heavy buyers of vitamins and citrus fruits."

Mr. Malling indicated that the volume of trade between Israel and his country is stable, though Sweden had lost the market here for the wood pulp used by the paper mill. Israel is still importing more than twice as much from Sweden.

He added that his Government would favour increased exports from here. He expressed the hope that German Reparations money would not disrupt Israel's customary trade with Sweden, as that would be a short-sighted policy.

Delegates representing 1,118 paid members in 42 towns and villages will gather for the two-day convention opening Sunday night at the SOHO Hotel in Tel Aviv. Among the speakers at the convention will be Acting Prime Minister Moshe Sharett.

The annual report revealed that the American-Canadian Association is sponsoring the construction of 18 apartments in Holon and of 10 individual homes in Kfar Haroeh, and has secured mortgages from the Jewish Agency and Ministry of Labour, as well as licenses for materials from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. In addition, during the year, the Association's housing section was able to secure mortgages on 42 other houses, while it was of assistance to 150 Americans seeking to rent rooms.

Fourteen American newcomers in Israel received small loans from the Association during the past year, even were helped to secure import licences in connection with the establishment of new enterprises, and 36 were aided in processing personal effects through customs.

Mr. H. A. Goodman, Chairman of the World Executive of Agudat Israel, of London, and Mrs. Goodman, have arrived for a brief visit.

Mrs. Maria E. Nussbaum has returned to Israel from Canada, where she spent several months on a Hebrew University mission.

Mr. I. Berger, Director of the Tourist Transport, has left for Europe and the U.S. on business.

**MEMORIAL MEETING**

The Hebrew University and the Jewish Agency will hold a joint memorial meeting in honor of the late Dr. David Werner Senator, former Executive Vice-President of the Hebrew University, at 8.30 tonight in the Assembly Hall of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem. The Vice-President of the Hebrew University, Professor M. Evenari, will preside, and memorial addresses will be delivered by Mr. B. Locker, Mr. Z. Shavit, Professor M. Huber, Mr. M. Kol, and Mr. M. Epstein. The public is invited.

**Where to go**

**JERUSALEM**

Meeting:—Association of Artisans and Manufacturers; Bet Ha'am, 8.30 p.m.

Archaeology:—Permanent exhibition incl. maps & finds of the late Col. P.L.O. Guy excavations Dept. of Antiquities, 25 Rehov Shlomo Ha-melech, Daily 9-1, 4-6.

Exhibitions:—

"Dancer" bronze by Edgar Degas. Modern French Graphics. Bezael Museum, 10 a.m.

Paintings by Ruth Etches and Nataf Ben-Zvi. Artists' House, 10-1, 4-6 p.m.

Festivals:—University conducted Mass, new administration building, King George Ave., opposite Terra Sancta, 10 a.m.

Film Show:—Keren Ha-Bud, 11.30-12.30.

**TEL AVIV**

Exhibitions:—

"Levards the Artist and Man of Science" photographs and reproductions. Illustrated Manuscripts. Sketches by Leopold Kratzky. Municipal Museum, 10-1, 4-7 p.m.

Tea:—University conducted Mass, new administration building, King George Ave., opposite Terra Sancta, 10 a.m.

Film Show:—Keren Ha-Bud, 11.30-12.30.

**HAIFA**

Exhibitions:—

"Fifty years of French Painting" Opening by Mr. Abba Khoushy, Mayor of Haifa. Municipal Hall of Art, Town Hall, 10-11 p.m.

Oil paintings by Litwinsky and ceramics by the painter Givatayim. The Tzur-Yosef Gallery, 4 Reh. Herzl opp. Zion Hotel, 10-11, 4-7.

Courses (Hebrew):—

Dr. Shimoni: "Philosophy as a Political and Religious Thinker," Tues. 8.30 p.m.

Freeman: "Biblical Synaxis," Sat. 8.30 Hamigal Square, Mt. Carmel.

Tea:—Rehov "Couture Maries," Opera, Ophel cinema, 4.15 & 5.30 p.m.

**HAIFA ON SEA**

Dine and Dance at the Sharon Hotel.

**Bar 5172**

11 Reh. Hayarkon, Tel Aviv

**THE HEBREW NATIONAL OPERA**

TEL AVIV: HABIMAH Dec 22, 8.30 p.m.

**Rigoletto**

Opera in 3 acts (6 scenes) by G. Verdi

TEL AVIV: HABIMAH Tuesday, Dec. 23, 8.30 p.m.

**Carmen**

Opera in 4 acts by Bizet

TEL AVIV: HABIMAH Dec 24, 8.30 p.m.

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Radio Service Laufer, 17 Reh. Nordan, Tel. 4959

"Ela" Electro-Radio, Lachman, 38 Reh. Herzl, Tel. 6550

Freidberg, "Zenith" Radio, 27 Reh. Hohalutz, Tel. 4957

Radio Service Kiefe, 46 Reh. Hohalutz, Tel. 65750

Radio Hahn Rasseau House, Kiryat Motzka, Tel. 7300

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**Today's Post Bag**

THE WEATHER

Met.	Temp.	Wind	Humidity
Tel Aviv	72	N.E.	85%
Natanya	71	S.E.	85%
Tel Aviv Port	71	S.E.	85%
Lodda Airport	70	S.E.	85%
Jerusalem	68	S.E.	85%
Haifa	68	S.E.	85%
Eilat	68	S.E.	85%

**FORECAST:** Showers in the forenoon decreasing gradually. Partly cloudy later. Higher temperatures.  
 (A) Humidity at 8 p.m. (B) Minimum temp. (C) Maxima; yesterday (D) Maximum temp. forecast today.

**SATURDAY MORNING** 9:31 Hebrew classes for the benefit of residents who are unable to attend classes on weekdays are to be given by the Haifa Municipality from December 24.

**A NEW DANCE** called "Israeli" has been created by Rita Nikova. The dance was performed by her for the first time before an Army Unit last week. The music for the dance is by Mr. Marc Lavry.

**THE OBSERVATORY** in Jerusalem is open to the public on Sunday and Wednesday evenings at 7.30 p.m. (except when the skies are overcast). Registrations may be made at the Chel Bookshop, Rehov Jaffa, (opp. Egged), and at the office of the Observatory, corner Rehov Redak and Rehov Jabotinsky, from Sunday to Thursday, between 8 and 9 p.m.

**THE INTERNATIONAL** children's drawings exhibition at the Bial School in Tel Aviv is open daily from 8-3, and 3-6.

**U.S. Ambassador Seriously Ill**

**TEL AVIV,** Saturday. — The U.S. Embassy announced this afternoon that Ambassador Morris R. Davis is seriously ill.

During his long leave last summer, the Ambassador was hospitalized in Washington with a heart ailment that delayed his return to Israel. By November, however, his recovery had reached a point which permitted the resumption of his duties here.

Unfortunately, the three-week sea voyage proved to be difficult for him, and as a result he has been confined to his home in Ramat Gan since his arrival.

**Two Soldiers Buried**

Yeshayahu Yalon and Avner Safra, the two 19-year-old soldiers whose bodies were found near Beit Govrin on Wednesday night, were buried on Friday with military honours in the Military Cemetery at Mount Herzl.

The funeral procession started in pouring rain, from the Avieli Hospital, where the bodies had been brought from Beit Govrin.

**Credit Lack Hamps Jerusalem Industry**

*Jerusalem Post Reporter*

A delegation representing the Jerusalem Manufacturers' Association met with Mr. Mordechai Zagag, Deputy Director-General of the Ministry of Finance, yesterday. A Ministry spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* on Friday, that the problem of facilitating bank credits to local industries was discussed.

From Manufacturers' Association circles it was learned that local industrialists are facing a series of difficult problems. At the top of the list they place the question of bank credits, which, it is claimed, are almost unattainable.

Although the Government has promised to devote a Cabinet session to Jerusalem's problems, the coalition crisis has prevented such a discussion.

The Association is considering serious steps to protest the situation, including a general one-day stoppage of Jerusalem plants.

**11 RELEASED**

The 11 persons arrested on Wednesday for illegal assembly and for interfering with Police who were sealing off draft evaders were released on Friday pending trial.

Nine of them, including Rabbi Amram Blau, head of Nafot Mekomim in Jerusalem, were freed by Police on IL 50 personal bail each which was advanced by friends.

**Alimony Case Filed In Wrong Place**

An alimony case that was filed with the Tel Aviv District Court prior to the enacting of the recent Law on Marriage and Divorce and have been filed in the Rabbinical Court, a special Court decided in Jerusalem on Friday.

The special Court consisted of two Supreme Court Judges and a member of the Chief Rabbinate Tel Aviv.

**Eshed Fined; Stopped Service for 5 Hours**

**TEL AVIV,** Saturday (ITIM). — The management of the Eshed bus cooperative yesterday was fined IL 200 for stopping traffic for five hours on February 1, 1952.

The District Court held that the management had no right to call a halt to public transport after the death at the central bus station of one of its members, Itzhak Segal, a traffic controller.

Mr. Segal died of a heart attack after a clash in a bus queue, but bus cooperative members charged at the time that he had been "murdered."

**Bus Fares Discussed**

The Minister of Communications, Mr. Joseph Saphir, met Friday with the District Representatives of the local authorities to discuss the fare increase after demand for higher fares.

The Minister gave the results of the examination of the cooperatives' budgets and the participants accepted his suggestions as a basis for the discussions with the cooperatives.

# Expect to Untie Coalition Knot Sometime During This Week

## Mapam Should Enter Government, Hakibbutz Hameuhad Declares

Jerusalem Post Reporter

**TEL AVIV,** Saturday. — The coalition issue could be solved one way or another during the coming week, and the chances are that the present Cabinet will remain in power on a slightly modified platform.

The Executive Committee of the General Zionist Party, which met here yesterday, instructed its members to resume contact with the Mapam leadership and to reach a set of minimum demands.

The General Zionists do not hide their willingness to remain in the coalition, and on the whole the conditions gained from Mapam during the six weeks' deliberations seem to satisfy them for the moment.

One thorny question remains: the "3% clause," which Mapam would not adopt, in order not to alienate the Progressives. The General Zionists are ready to make it a "3% clause," but given that would not satisfy the Progressives.

**FAVOUR LARGE COALITION** One may expect that the Progressives would be willing to enter a small coalition with Mapam if the General Zionists fall out on the issue. Most influential Progressives, however, are known to favour a large coalition and would object to Mapam's inclusion. The Religious Zionists made clear last week their desire to maintain the larger coalition.

The official communiques issued by the General Zionists and the Progressives are non-committal, stating merely that authority has been given to the coalition committee of the General Zionists and the political committee of the Progressives to continue negotiations. As the Mapam political committee has given its committee of eight carte blanche to form a Cabinet, a few days hence suffice to settle the issue.

Yesterday, Mayor Abba Khousky intervened in the dispute and discussed the situation with the General Zionists, the Progressives, Yaakov Dori, and the students. Tonight, he was "hopeful that the dispute will be settled in a day or two," he told *The Jerusalem Post*.

The students told him that their main difficulty was room rent which claimed most of their expenses and they urgently need of cheaper housing.

Later, the Mayor and Rev. Alf Dorn agreed to undertake jointly to solve the students' housing problem during the coming year.

In the light of this undertaking, the students will meet tomorrow to take another vote on the increased fees issue. There appears to be every chance that they will now agree to the raised fees.

## RAILWAY STOCK PURCHASES FINAL

**LYDDA AIRPORT,** Saturday (ITIM). — The purchase of railway equipment in Germany has been completed, including Diesel-electric engines and a powered and ordinary carriage, Mr. Hayim Raill, Director-General of Railways and Communications, said yesterday upon his return from a purchasing trip to Germany.

The equipment is to be bought with Reparations funds.

Civil aviation equipment and port machinery have also been bought, Mr. Raill added.

Also aboard the plane was Mr. Efrat, acting Managing Director of Israel Railways, returning from a visit to Germany in connection with the purchases.

## PAPER APOLOGIZES

**TEL AVIV,** Saturday. — The Ministry of Finance is investigating the conduct of a public advisory committee to help in assessing incomes, Mr. Ben Zion Argov, the Income Tax Commissioner, said at the Cooperative Economics Club here yesterday.

He added that he planned to devise a system of centralizing the collection of the various taxes paid to the Government.

The nation's income this year was estimated at IL 200,000 and income tax reached 5% of this total, he stated.

The average income tax paid by a wage earner was IL 100 this year, he continued. The number of income tax evaders was small; they came mainly from the lower income brackets, Mr. Argov concluded.

**President Attends Services in Tiberias**

**TIBERIAS,** Saturday. — The President and Mrs. Ben-Zvi attended services at the Sabbath synagogue here this morning. They were received by the Mayor and Rabbi at the entrance and the blessing Shehecheyanah was recited.

Mr. Ben-Zvi was honoured with coffee and recited the haftorah. Later, a special prayer for the President was said at the service. All the worshippers accompanied the President's party to the Galed Kinneret Hotel.

This afternoon, Mrs. Ben-Zvi opened an exhibition of pictures by the painter, Raphael Moshé. She purchased one of the exhibits, a gouache, "Herman."

**Special Meat Ration For Christmas**

A meat ration will be distributed to Christian residents earlier than the rest of the population in view of the approaching holiday season, a Ministry of Commerce and Industry spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* on Friday.

In addition to the regular rations, special arrangements have been made to furnish available to each Christian a 500-gramme of imported jam and 300 grams of sugar.

"Palatin," Old City Mayor of Defence has approved the requests of 2,000 Christians to cross the Armistice Line for Christmas.

Participants accepted his suggestion as a basis for the discussions with the cooperatives.

**Bus Fares Discussed**

The Minister of Communications, Mr. Joseph Saphir, met Friday with the District Representatives of the local authorities to discuss the fare increase after demand for higher fares.

The Minister gave the results of the examination of the cooperatives' budgets and the participants accepted his suggestions as a basis for the discussions with the cooperatives.

## IL 50,000 in Opium Seized in Negev

**BEERSHEBA,** Saturday. — Local police intercepted a smuggler of opium coming from the Negev early yesterday morning and confiscated 70 kilograms of opium valued at IL 50,000. One Israeli Bedouin was captured, but the rest escaped.

Infiltrators stole water pipes and other equipment valued at IL 300 in a series of four thefts from a kibbutz in the Negev on Tuesday night. Police traced tracks of seven men and four donkeys in the direction of the Gaza strip border.

## Aid-to-Infiltrators Trial Ends

Jerusalem Post Reporter

**NAHARIYA,** Saturday. — The trial of Reuven Brenner, 32, of Metulla, on four counts of aiding infiltrators, came to an end before a full Military Court in Acre yesterday. Sentence is to be passed on Monday.

Brenner was accused when two infiltrators from the Lebanon, caught with a quantity of hashish by Rehov Pines Police in September, said that the hashish was for him. The accused denied the story. The infiltrators turned State's evidence on the premises of the accused, one appeared before the prosecution's principal witness at the trial.

The four charges against Brenner are: sheltering an infiltrator; aiding an infiltrator by giving him IL 1,000 in exchange for a quantity of hashish; passing information of military value to an infiltrator; and to aid in carrying out a military operation which also would include Metulla.

After several hours of testimony, the court adjourned until Monday morning.

**CHALOUD APPEAL**

**Summing up** after the Council's resolution, Mr. Yisrael Meir appealed to Mapai in "view of the dangers confronting the country" to accept a coalition which also would include Mapai.

After a short political discussion, the Council dealt with social, economic and ideological problems of Hakibbutz Hamoshav.

Mr. Z. Tsur of Sde Nahum called for an increase in production by accepting new members and by better planning. Mr. A. H. Ofer, Hashomer Hatzair, suggested that Hakibbutz Hamoshav should receive money from the IL 500, Histadrut Provident Fund and use it for expansion programmes. The par value of the loan could be made to change with the cost-of-living index.

Both speakers were broad cast by Givat Brenner's small radio transmitting station, Hakibbutz members listened in from their homes.

**POWER FROM HOT SPRINGS**

**TOKYO,** Saturday (UP). — The Government has started to begin to harness this country's underground hot springs to generate electrical power. It was learned today.

The disclosure by reliable sources here followed the recommendation by a World Bank Mission yesterday that Japan study this source of energy.

Test borings have been started in Otake, in southern Japan, and at the Naruko hot springs, in the north, these sources said.

The proceedings were broadcast by Givat Brenner's small radio transmitting station, Hakibbutz members listened in from their homes.

**BASRA MARTIAL LAW PROTESTED**

As a means of protesting against the proclamation of martial law in Basra, the Iraqi Popular Front Party, meeting in Baghdad on Friday, under the chairmanship of its President, Mr. Shabib, declared in order to maintain the principles of Social Welfare and Health both members of the Party, to withdraw from the Cabinet, NEARBS reports.

Although some of the Basra all workers have returned to work, the bulk is continuing to strike and the situation remains tense, ANA reports.

The "Triangle" villagers this season have marketed about IL 500,000 worth of vegetables and grapes from an improved crop.

They expressed satisfaction with the prices paid them, and their general economic prosperity.

**ISRAEL CLEARING MINES IN J'LEM AREA**

Israel has informed Jordan through the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission of "Operation Clearing Mines" in the Jerusalem area near the Armistice Lines, "Palatin," Old City daily, reports. Jordan has asked that the work extends into no man's land.

The paper says that the mine clearing forces are away near the Yarmuk River, opposite Rosh ha-Sharon and Mount Zion and that the operation, which started last Thursday, will end this Thursday.

**HASSOUNA DENIES**

The Secretary-General of the Arab League, Abdul Khalik Hassouna, has denied news agency reports that he has resigned from his post, ANA said last night.

On Wednesday, 43 young Egyptians were arrested for Communist activities, the Police said, without questioning witnesses or examining evidence.

In addition, the newspaper said that while there is growing acceptance of smoking as a major cause of lung cancer, the smoking agent responsible has not been identified.

Nevertheless, the "Journal" agreed with the view that it may be unnecessary to await the isolation and identification of a specific carcinogenic agent before doing something to halt the rapid increase in mortality and to turn it into an even more dramatic decline."

**EXPERT EXPECTED**

**UNITED NATIONS,** Saturday (UP). — The UN Technical Assistance Administration announced today that Mr. William J. Latona, of Sydney, Australia, will leave for Israel on December 21 to advise Government offices on cost accounting.

The "Journal" said in an editorial that while there is growing acceptance of smoking as a major cause of lung cancer, the smoking agent responsible has not been identified.

Nevertheless, the "Journal" agreed with the view that it may be unnecessary to await the isolation and identification of a specific carcinogenic agent before doing something to halt the rapid increase in mortality and to turn it into an even more dramatic decline."

**Labour Leads in Malta**

**VALLETTA,** Saturday. (Reuters). — The Labour Party, which has been in power since the elections last night, defeated Dr. Dominic Mintoff's Labour Party ahead with 15 seats. The nationalists, led by Dr. Reginald Oliver, the outgoing Prime Minister, had 13 seats, and the Malta Workers' Party, headed by Dr. Paul Bonnici, two seats.

There are still 10 seats to be decided.

**SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT NO. 3**

**Conductor:** GEORGE SINGER  
**Soloist:** SHURA CHERKASSKY  
(Piano)

**TEL AVIV, "Ohal Shem"**  
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## THE JERUSALEM POST

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Sunday, December 20, 1953  
Tevet 14, 5714, Babi-el-Thawar 12, 1953

The Arab states have for 15 years been pursuing their policy of turning the armistice agreements into instruments of economic DANGEROUS aggression against Israel. None has been more forward or adept at this than Syria, which has long been doing everything possible to thwart the development of this country. The cry has now been taken up by Pakistan and Lebanon, their faithful friends, and, more inconsciously, by the Formosans of China, which occupies a seat in the Security Council.

In protesting to the Security Council against what by common consent of the civilized world is a legitimate and benevolent development project, Syria hoped, by twisting the clauses of the armistice agreement to suit her interpretation, to secure an injunction forbidding Israel to proceed with the work. But in the event, the delegates of the Western Powers made it clear, whatever their views and interests might be in connection with other aspects of the problem, that the agreement of Syria was not required for the resumption of the digging operations started on September 2, nor for any other civilian work carried out in the demilitarized zone. If the discussion in the Security Council had removed doubts about this point alone, it would have justified itself amply, though this is exactly the opposite of what Syria hoped to achieve when she referred the matter to the Council.

Another point that has been cleared up concerns the military advantage which Israel would allegedly obtain from the new canal. Quite apart from the fact that the canal served no military purpose at all, but purely an economic one, Israel maintained that even if it should create a military advantage, there was nothing in the armistice agreement to forbid this. On this point, too, her view has been amply upheld, with the French delegate, M. Hoppenot, in particular making mock of the untenable thesis which had been put forward.

So vehemently had the Syrian case been pressed that it came as a surprise, apparently, to members of the Security Council when they learnt that nowhere, at no single point, did the River Jordan touch Syrian territory. This in itself was sufficient to demolish the Syrian case, leaving only a proper regard for the land and water rights of private individuals. These Israel had been, from the start, ready to respect in full; she had, indeed, been placing these self-imposed limitations on her work ever since 1951.

The resolution proposed by the three Western powers requires General Benneke to satisfy himself that these rights will be duly safeguarded, thereby implying that he will be expected to authorize resumption of the work once adequate assurances have been furnished in this regard. It is to be hoped that he will be assisted by experts, particularly hydroelectric engineers, in arriving at a correct assessment of the facts. There are undoubtedly difficulties still to be overcome, but, as the British delegate under-standingly observed, the fact that such difficulties exist must not be taken as an excuse for maintaining the present position — with the work at a standstill.

Cynicism such as that revealed in the attitudes of Lebanon, Pakistan and "China" is not even in the United Nations. They are serving a purely or impurely political end, which is the same as that of Syria. It is negative, destructive, retrograde, despicable. No slightest attempt has been made to judge the issue on its merits or to call for impartial judgment. There is merely bare-faced abuse by these delegates of the privilege enjoyed by their countries as members of the Security Council, and a wholly irresponsible direction of international duty. It is not to be supposed that their shabby manoeuvre will succeed. If it should, it would constitute a severe blow to inter-state relations in the Middle East, and, in the long run, not least to Syria herself.

This is not to say that the three-power resolution is ideal from a legal point of view. It would introduce further delays for one thing; and it is wedged with such painstaking obscurity that it seems certain to be not so much the end of a discussion as the beginning of another. The two lone dissidents which are bound to start once the U.N. Chief of Staff returns to Jerusalem. The resolution is framed the way it is on account of the Powers' understandable desire to uphold the authority of General Benneke which they fear any general decision of his own would undermine. But what the Arabs, supported by Karachi and Formosa, are doing is to undermine the authority of the United Nations itself. This is a manoeuvre whose dangerous significance far transcends the limits of the Middle East. It cannot be allowed to succeed.

## The Week in the Knesset

## CRIME and PUNISHMENT

By GERDA LUFT

**I**N Austria, where the death penalty had been reinstated after it had once been abolished, the successful fight for its definite abolition was headed by the head of the Government party who had been sentenced to death by the Nazis but had escaped. He had been kept in a cell adjacent to the execution chamber and had heard everything that went on there. When he got out he was convinced that the condemned died not once but many times.

The discussion on the abolition of the death penalty is fairly new in Israel. The Minister of Justice has forcefully expressed his conviction in favour of abolition and has carefully marshalled his arguments, culled from legal experience in many countries. The attitude of the Knesset is apparently informed. From the outset there was a number of persons who went along wholeheartedly with Mr. Rosen, some for humanitarian reasons, others under the influence of evidence. On the other side were those who felt necessary the thought that the death penalty, society's most powerful weapon against the evildoer, was to be taken out of their hands. They looked with concern at the crime wave which had made murder a more frequent occurrence than would have been thought possible in the Yishuv ten years ago. They were not convinced by the example of other more settled countries which shows that the abolition of the death penalty does not increase the danger of violent crimes.

### Defense of the State

The issue has been complicated by the tabling of a Bill for the Defense of the State in which the death penalty is proposed for crimes of treason in time of war. In order to assume that there would be a majority in the Knesset in favour of the death penalty for treason in times of war. Whether it is appropriate in a time not actually of war, but in which the danger of treason is great, is highly controversial.

The Bill for the Abolition of the Death Penalty has been in Committee prior to the second reading for a long time. During the interim period, the Ministry of Justice in various cases has recommended the conversion of a death sentence to imprisonment. The Knesset, however, has been failing to speak on borrowed time. Although the death penalty is a legal possibility, it has not been imposed even once.

When the Minister of Justice wound up the debate on the new Penal Code last Friday, he created a sensation by announcing that he did not propose to recommend the conversion of the death penalty into life imprisonment in every case, as this would imply a change in the law by administrative means. Asked about his intentions in the Legal Committee on the following Monday, Mr. Rosen declared that it was not the Government's design to carry out death sentences in the near future.

**Short Week**  
If the Minister's purpose was to shake the Knesset out of its complacency and to

force the Legal Committee to speed up its work on the Bill, he may well have succeeded. What is more, the debate on this question probably will be reopened in the House.

It is somewhat misleading to call this feature "The Week in the Knesset" on this occasion. The House sat only for a day and a half. Tuesday being devoted entirely to committed meetings. In itself this is a good thing, since it continues its work the plenary depends upon the elimination of the back log accumulated in various committees.

### Economic Issues

The Finance Committee was again the scene of important discussions, touching on crucial issues of economic policy. The question of the Palestine Electric Corporation was dis-

cussed in the presence of the Minister of Development. Whether the large cooperatives, such as Hamashbir and Tzava, sufficient income Tax threw into relief the wording of the present Income Tax Bill which gives cooperatives a special status. The problem of partial or complete abolition of foreign currency control was also debated. The investigations of the Finance Committee should prove good preparation for the economic discussions which must accompany the budget debate early next year.

Optimism on the tabling of the Budget in the near future — the Finance Committee tentatively appears to be waning: there is now talk of tabling the estimates in February. This is clearly the very latest date if the Knesset is to complete its deliberations on March 31.

## Religious Freedom in Italy



His Holiness the Pope, wearing an elbow length sacerdotal cape over a white woolen cassock, kneels to pray in Rome's Spanish Square. It was part of the ceremony in which the Pope inaugurated the Roman Catholic Church's first Marian year. Urbi et Orbi, the apostolic benediction to the City of Rome and the world, was broadcast and, for the first time, Express Photo.

By JOHN CAIRNCROSS

ROME, (OFNS)—

ITALY'S Supreme Court of Appeal has recently given judgment on a much-contested issue of religious liberty. It is estimated that there are 35,000 Italian Pentecostal Brethren, a small Protestant sect which, with some support from the United States, has been fairly successful among the poorer peasants of the South. The sect was refused liberty of worship by Mussolini, and in spite of the article in Italy's post-war Constitution which abolishes religious discrimination, continued to be exposed to pin-pricks from bigoted local authorities.

Another pointer towards an improvement in the situation has been the approval by Parliament of a law which removes the requirement of an indication of illegitimate birth must figure on a citizen's documents (and these play an important part in Italy).

### Illegitimate Birth

A motion has also been tabled (replacing a similar draft submitted last year) on subsequent legislation for the abrogation of the present laws forbidding birth control propaganda. It is signed by members of all Parties except the Right-wing Fascists and Monarchists, and the Christian Democrats. The statement accompanying the proposal points out that the ban was not based on moral but on racial grounds, and that the Catholic Church, by its endorsement of "safe period" contraception, has in fact countenanced population restriction. It also stresses the need to tighten up existing outlets abroad for surplus population while at the same time allowing a high birthrate to nullify the policy.

The birthrate in the North is now one of the lowest in Europe. It is only in the backward South and in the islands that the figure reaches 25 or even 30 per thousand. The overall rate is lower than that of France, for which the opponents of the new proposal have not been slow to point out.

He was featured as soloist in Aram Khachaturian's Piano Concerto (one movement) with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, the baton of Serge Koussevitzky, another master who was dear to us. Next came a Brahms Intermezzo and a Petrenchian sonnet by Liszt (from the "Annees de Pelerinage"). The impression made by this superbly performed work is hard to express: the subtle sense of colour and the melancholy cantilena, so well remembered from Kapell's reading of Rachmaninoff's Third Piano Concerto with the I.P.O. conducted by Erich Leinsdorf. The rhythms and the infinite variety of a wondrous work. The echo of this Kamel-Koussevitzky requiem will not fade from the memory.

**Wiliensky and Damari**  
TO mark Moise Wiliensky's artistic work over 20 years' duration as musical director of the "Mata" and "Li-La-Lo," the Koi Yisrael Orchestra dedicated its concert on Thursday night at the Y.M.C.A. exclusively to this corner of the performing arts. Who conducted the performance? A master a kora and a pastoral for orchestra, pleasing in instrumentation, the programme consisted of songs, most of them the folksong type. Levi Galperin (bass-baritone) and Shoshana Damari were the soloists.

From the moment Shoshana appeared on the platform to open with "Hadvale" (a traditional Yemenite song), we felt spell-bound. Shoshana is the loveliest flower of the desert, the personification of all that we love in this country: since her appearance in the "Li-La-Lo" she has been triumphant with the songs of her perennial accompanist Moshe Wiliensky, who has always been at his best with the light touch, especially to Natan Almoran's "Miriam." Shoshana Damari took the audience by storm with such sparkling ditties as "Ani Mitzad"; "Miriam ve Nissim" and of course "Kalanit," which she has made famous the world over.

**FRANGO**  
In Tel Aviv

With the help of violinist Ludmilla Bertova and her accompanist at the piano, Zdenek Kubelik we became acquainted with an interesting selection of Czech music rarely heard in the concert hall. The concert at the Tel Aviv Ohel Shalom Hall on Tuesday was well attended, and both artists must certainly have felt the sympathy which emanated from the audience.

Mme. Bertova should be called a sound musician rather than a virtuoso; in the Brahms Sonata particularly, her playing was clean and lucid, and somewhat understated. But in a work of "modern" Brahmsian language, Martin's Third Sonata; in pieces of beautiful Czech sentiment (Jan Kubelik's "Ballad, Three Pieces by Smetana" and "Mazurk" by Dvorak) Mme. Bertova succeeded very well in conveying the native spirit through the particularly persuasive quality of the violin. Martin's Sonata was a forceful example of the composer's melodic and harmonic modernism with a scherzo of commanding originality in the piano-vocal relationship.

From the moment Shoshana appeared on the platform to open with "Hadvale" (a traditional Yemenite song), we felt spell-

bound. Shoshana is the loveliest flower of the desert, the personification of all that we love in this country:

THE PELTOURS INSURANCE

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## Reader's Letters

### REPARATIONS PLANS

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir.—The Economic correspondent of The Jerusalem Post complains in a recent article ("Public knows too little about Reparations Purchases") that the general manager of the Reparations purchases is called a "sorcerer," and that the nation is entitled to know more about what is actually being planned.

The general policy of Reparations purchases is determined by the Council of Economic Ministers, who has appointed a Sub-Committee of five members to decide on the purchase of equipment under a general development plan.

The publication of this plan has been delayed, as its details, if revealed too early, could have an adverse effect on prices of imports. Therefore, it would be better to wait until the acquisition of the goods concerned. It is only now, after orders have been placed for some of the important equipment, and more purchasing orders are being prepared by the Reparations plan, that it is possible to publish the outlines of the general development plan which is the basis for the Reparations purchasing policy. This, however, will not be done before the next sitting of the Advisory Committee on Reparations, where the major economic organizations of the country are represented.

In general, the plan is based on the use of Reparations goods as counterpart funds received by the Government for Reparations paid in kind, and additional imports purchased for foreign currency from sources other than the Reparations, all within one general development framework. It should be noted that the import of raw materials under the Reparations agreements is within the general imports scheme within the foreign currency budget of the State, and there is no separate arrangement for raw materials emanating from Reparations sources.

Fragrant and inexact details of the development plan, which recently have appeared in some local newspapers should not be regarded as authoritative information.

As soon as the time is ripe for publication, the public will be given the full story.

Yours etc.,

E. LASHERSON

Reparations Corporation

Jerusalem, December 10.

PENFRIENDS

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir.—We are a group of young Jewish girls who live at the Rebecca Gratz Club, 182 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Most of us come from small towns in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and have moved to the city to find careers.

We would like to correspond with young men between the ages of 20 and 40 who are interested in learning about the U.S.

Yours etc.,

Frances Aronoff; Bea Bell;

Jill Berg; Sylvia Berger; Ro-

berta Blum; Gloria Brodsky;

Barbara Brodsky; Harriet

Brodsky; Anna Cohen; Bernice

Dash; Doris Dash; Janet

Hiltner; Evelyn Hildreth; Pa-

pouline Feinbaum; Esther

T. Gordon; Dorothy Hersch;

Roslyn Karmann; Ann

Lichtenstein; Patricia Lobel; Ra-

chelle Lorber; Dorothy Magdon;

Nathalie Mayer; Lettie

Nachman; Jeanne Oren; Ruthie

Oren; Celia Rich; Marjorie

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borah Sobel; Thelma Lois

Wiener; Bernice Yudovofski;

Marilyn Kaplan.

Philadelphia, Pa., November 8.

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